

did new building was not completed. I am greatly pleased to see this fine new facility, which the Maryland State Police is sharing with the Civil Defense Agency.

On this day, you young men who have completed your training are embarking on a police career with an organization that subscribes to one of the great principles of our form of government. It is an organization which strives at the same time to enforce the laws of our State and nation and to protect the rights of the citizens.

Law enforcement is not always an easy task to perform, and there will be times in your careers when the action you are required to take will not be the action which you, personally, would like to take. But as policemen, you are the protector of the right of the individual, whether he be a victim of a crime or an offender of the law.

It is a basic duty of the police, and all others engaged in the enforcement and administration of our laws, to protect the innocent as well as to develop the information necessary to convict the guilty. We Americans cherish law and order, but we abhor the police state. The police and the courts must uphold the dignity of government and protect the freedom of our citizens. When you are engaged in your official capacity as a member of the Maryland State Police, you are an agent of the government of the State of Maryland.

The police are our first line of defense, not only against the criminals of our own country, but also against any foreign elements that may attempt to infiltrate into our society

In my opinion, there is no such thing as too much law enforcement of the right kind. This is where you young men fit into the picture. Effective law enforcement is based pretty much on the same principles and techniques you would use to win friends and influence people. A legitimate traffic arrest, accompanied by a courteous explanation of the offense, goes a long way toward winning a friend, gaining respect for the law and promoting safety on the highway.

Public acceptance of regulations breaks down quickly when law enforcement is based on any philosophy other than the honesty and integrity of the law enforcement agency.

My Administration will continue to support to the fullest extent programs aimed at curtailing the deaths, injuries and destruction caused by highway accidents. The authorized strength of this police department is being increased by 40 men this year. I intend to rec-